NEW YORK THERAID, TURSDAY, PREBLARY IS, 1813.

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF PULTON AND NASSAU STS.

TERMS cash in advance. Money sent by mail will beat the DAILY BERALD two centsper conv. \$7 per a WKEKLY HERALD, every Substrain, at star y, or \$3 per annum; the European Estition every re is cents percopy; \$4 per annum to any part of Grea \$6 12 to may part of the Cantinant, both to include po lifernia Edition on the 1st, 11th and 21st at ach mo \$5 per annuary

N TARY CORRESPONDENCE, containing important
icited from any quarter of the world; if used, will be
pand for. BO OUR FORKIGN COMERTERS AND PACE
LABLY REQUISIND TO SEAL ALL EXTRES AND PACE NO NOTICE taken of anonymous correspondence. We do not the taken of anonymous correspondence. torrespected communications.

ADVERTISENED TO remuced every day; advertisements in-tical in the Weight Herald. Family Herald, and in the ultiforms and Furopean Editions.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

stat with neatness, cheapness and to

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway .- COLLEGE BAWK. WINTER GARDEN, Broadway .- SERIOUS PARILY-PLEA WALLACK'S THEATRE, No. 844 Broadway. -- Roan

LAURA REENE'S THEATRE, Broadway .- OUR AMERICAN CORNER NEW BOWERT THEATRE, Bowery,-ICH WITCH-HAP

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery .- STICKHEY'S NATIONAL BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway. -- Cox

BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broad-NIBLO'S SALOON, Broadway .-- G OTISCHALE'S CONCERT DOLEY'S MINSTRELS, Stuyvessed Institute, No. 669

DEON CONCERT HALL, No. 539 Broadway. RBURY MUSIC HALL, 585 Broadway. -S DANCES CONCERT ROOM, 516 Broadway.—DRAWING GAIETTE. MUSIC HALL, 444 Broadway. -- Songs, Bat-AMERICAN

ACE CONCERT HALL, No. 45 Bowery. CRYSTAL PAL NET OF WONDERS, 563 Broadway. PARISIAN CAR HALL, 616 Broadway, -- BUBLESQUE

NOVELTY MUSDE g place.-La Mari DE LA VEUVE-IRVING HALL, Irvh 1y, Pebruary 18, 1862.

THE STI UATION.

elson-which, from the The fall of Fort Don 'erday morning, must news we published yes foregone conclusionhave been to our readers a is the most important vict ory yet achieved by the armies of the government, and will most probably prove to be the ma it disastrous defeat which the rebel cause has suffered since the commencement of hostilities. That victory was complete, resulting as it did for the capture of 15,000 rebel troops, an immense a mount of war material and the persons of Genera is Pillow, A. S. Johnstone and Buckner. Gen eral Floyd sneaked off with his brigade of five thou sand men on Saturday night, and is, in consequence, denounced by the more gallant officers who maintained their ground to the last moment and have fallen into our hands, as a black-hearted traitor and coward. The whole nation has already branded him in like terms.

The fort surrendered at nine o'clock on Sunday porning. The loss on both sides was very heavy hat of the enemy must have amounted, in killed hid wounded, to nearly ten thousand, if the statement be true that the garrison consisted of thirty thousand men.

General McClellan yesterday, states that Commodore Foote, although suffering from the wound he received, will immediately follow with two gunboats and the mortar boats which he expects to overtake, and make an attack on Clarksville, another strong post of the rebels on the way to Nashville. Clarksville is distant from Nashville about fire miles, in a northwesterly direction. It is fortified pretty strongly from the bluffs surrounding it, and is by this time most probably held by a large force of the rebels.

Additional particulars of the battle come to us from Chicago, in a despatch dated at Fort Donelson yesterday, which says:-"General Smith led the charge on the lower end of the works, and was the first inside the fortifications. The Fort Henry ranaways were bagged here. The prisoners are loading on the steamers for Cairo.

i Our loss is heavy-probably four hundred killed and eight hundred wounded. We lose a large per centage of officers; among them are Lieutenant Colonels Irwin, of the Illinois Twentieth; White, of the Thirty-first, and Smith, of the Forty-eighth. Colonels John A. Logan, Lawyer and Kansom are wounded. Major Post, of the Eighth Illinois, with two hundred privates, are prisomers, and have gone to Nashville, having been taken the night before the surrender. The enemy's loss is heavy, but not so large as ours, as they fought behind intrenchments. We should have taken them by storming on Saturday if our ammunition had not given out in the night. General McClernand's division, composed of Generals Oglesby's, Wallace's and McArthur's brigades, suffered terribly. They were composed of the Eighth, Ninth, Eleventh, Eighteenth, Twentieth' Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Forty-fifth, Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Illinois regiments. General Lew. Wallace, with the Eleventh Indiana. Mighth Missouri and some Ohio regiments, pastici-

Taylor's, Willard's, McAllister's, Schwartz's and Decesse's batteries were in the fight from the commencement. The enemy turned our right for balf an hour; but our lost ground was more than regained. General Lanman's brigade, of General Smith's division, was the first in the lower end of the enemy's works, which was done by a charge of bayonets. As nine-tenths the rebels were pitted against our gight, our forces on the right were ready all night to recommence the attack. On Senday morning they were met on their approach by a white flag, General Buckner having sent early in the morning a despatch to General Grant surrendering. The works of the fort extend some five miles on the outside. The rebels lose forty-eight field pieces seventeen heavy guns, twenty thousand stand of arms, besides a large quantity of commissary

Moentime our armies in Kentucky, under th

direction of General Buell, are availing themselves NEW YORK HERALD. of the evacuation of Bowling Green to press on southward. On learning that the rebels were evacuating that place, General Buell ordered a forced march by General Mitchell, to save, if possible, the railroad and turnpike bridges on Big Barren river. They, however, had all been destroved when General Mitchell reached the banks of the river. The brigades of General Breckinridge and General Hindman were until Thursday evening at Woodburn station, but subsequently moved on to Russelville, and are probably now in

> It is believed now that no rebel forces exist in Centucky east of the direct road from Bowling Green via Franklin-a town on the railroad, nine miles South of Woodburn Station-to Nashville.

It is reported that General McCook and General Thomas left with their divisions by way of Salt river for the Cumberland on Saturday; General Buell, it is said, accompanied McCook's division to take command on the Cumberland river in person, where 80,000 of our troops were expected to arrive to-day. While he presses the enemy on the Cumberland with his tremendous force, their flank and rear are threatened by the heavy divisions under Generals Nelson and Mitchell.

Thus surrounded by a military cordon, and with their stronghold, Columbus, flanked, the fate of the rebels in that vicinity may be considered as scaled. Fresh troops are pouring down from Ohio and Indiana to support our armies. Three Indiana regiments and a battery of artillery left New Albany yesterday, and the men in the camps of instruction at Bardstown, Ky., embarked from Louisville at the same time for the Cumberland river. The aggregate of these reinforcements will amount to nearly 40,000 men.

The map which we publish to-day, together with the accompanying description of Clarksville and the other prominent points yet to be assailed by our troops, will enable our readers to understand the precise line of operations before us.

In addition to the victory in Tennessee we have information from Fortress Monroe that severe fighting has been going on near Savannah, and that the city was reported to have been captured by the Union troops, most probably those of Gen. Wright and Capt. Davis, who, as we have previously stated, entered the Savannah river by Warsaw Sound and dispersed Tatnall's rebel fleet.

Immediately on the receipt of the news of the capture of Fort Donelson by the Secretary of War, he sent the name of General Grant to the President for promotion to a Major Generalship. Secretary Stanton has also issued an order thanking General Lander for his late services in Western Virginia.

The receipt of the news of the Fort Donelso victory at Washington yesterday created the most ntense excitement. General McClellan, who felt justly proud of the success of his plans, went in person to the War Department with General Cul hum's despatch, which was read aloud by Mr. Stanten to a large number of visiters, and was welcomed by three ringing cheers. In both houses of Congress the intelligence was received with thewildest enthusiasm, and when, in addition, the news of the capture of Savannah, as reported from Norfolk by way of Fortress Monroe, was announced in the Senate by Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, load manifestations of applause buest from the galleries and the floor of the Senate Chamber.

The joy in the camps and on the streets was not ess demonstrative as the news was read at the head of each regiment. And it will be seen by our reports of the effect of this glorious intelligence in the city of New York and throughout the le North yesterday that the entire people unite in one common voice of jubilee. In St Louis General Halleck made a speech to the ex ultant crowd who assembled at his headquarters, in which he said:-"I promised, when I came here, with your aid, to drive the enemies of the flag from your State. This has been done, and it is now virtually out of Kentucky, and soon will be out of Tennessee." Judge Holt is said to have wept for joy when he heard the news. Many of the stores were closed, the city decorated with flags, and evidence of the greatest joy was everywhere

## CONGRESS.

The excitement yesterday in the Senate incident to the reception of the news of the glorious successes of the Union arms entirely unfitted that body for the transaction of public business. After some routine business, of little importance, they went into executive session, and soon after

The House participated in the general jubilee consequent upon the announcement of the news from Tennessee. No business was done beyond the passage of an amendment reducing the salary of the Commissioner of the Agricultural Department, and the bill authorizing the employment of a stenographer by the committee on the conduct of the war. The bill making an appropriation for the signal service of the army was also passed.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

We give in another column a complete list of the members of the new rebel Congress, which is to put itself into working operation at Richmond today. It consists of twenty-six S stors and one hundred and seven representatives, the States of Missouri and Kentucky having an equal voice with those that regularly seceded. The members from Missouri were not chosen from the Congressions districts, according to law, but were taken in a body from Sterling Price's rebel ragamuffins, and will be admitted under the name of commissioners. The Senators who will represent that State were elected by Claiborne F. Jackson's rump Legislature, which had a meeting at Neosho for that purpose, at which not one-fifth of the members were present. The Kentucky representatives pretend that they were regularly elected in the dis-tricts which they claim to hail from. In some of the districts in the south and southwestern sections polls were no doubt opened and some fer votes cast, but in not a single district throughout the whole northern part of the State was an election ever talked about or thought of, and the men who have allowed their names to be placed upon this black list as the representatives of Kentucky are cheating the people and perpetrating a fraud upon the so-called Confederate government. Quite number of the members were representatives from the various seceded States in the last federal Congress, but a large majority of them are new aspirants for a doubtful fame.

Our legislators at Albany yesterday, in common with all other classes of patriotic citizens, became nfected with the enthusiasm consequent upon the ecent splendid victories of the Union forces, and out little business was transacted in either house. in the Senate a favorable report was made on the bill regulating the powers and duties of the Port Captain and Harbor Masters of this port. Notice was given of a bill to authorize the selection of a site for a new State prison; also to incorporate the

Forty-second treet Railroad. The bill in refer re nee to the purchase of lands in the vicini of Fort Hamilton by the national goveran ent, for public defence, was laid over for the present. The Eric Railroad con. . lidet on bill was passed. In the Assembly, favorabie repor is were made on the bills regulating our Court of Chaneral Sessions, and to punish frauds aborers. A lills were introduced for a railroad in Tenth and ot 'er streets of this city; to prevent frauds in the . pening of our city streets, and to compel railroad . to employ special police. Bills were noticed to reduce the fare on city railroads to provide for the apprehension and punish-ment of kidnappers, and to regulate the public advertising in this city. On the aunouncement of the cap sture of Fort Donelson and Savannah, all the rules, of order were disregarded, and the members rose at d gave cheer after cheer, which was accompanied by a general clapping of hands and throwing up of . hats on the part of the spectators in the gallerie . A resolution, congratulating the country on the victories, and di recting an illumination of the Capitol, was finally, fter various patriotic speeche s had been made and amidst great excitement, a lopted, when the House a bourned.

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held yesterday, Supervisor Two ed in the chair pro tem. After transacting some rea tine business communication was received from 1 is Honor the Mayor, stating that he had signed the resolution passed by the Board recommending the issue of county revenue bonds in anticipation of the colection of the annual taxes. His He nor also ecommended that the law be altered to provide for the collection of the taxes at an earlier period of the year, an arrangement which would sa ve the payment of the interest on said county re enue onds. Referred to the Committee on As qual Taxes. . The Board then adjourned until Tues day next, the 25th inst.

The Board of Aldermen passed a resolution in evening to fire a salute of one hundred gans is morrow, as an appreciation of the late successes of the Union arms. A resolution was offered in structing the Comptroller to withhold payment for street cleaning if, in the opinion of the Inspector, the contract has not been performed faithfully The resolution was laid over. Mayor Opdyke sen in a veto of the bill prohibiting the use of salt on railroad tracks, on the ground of public necessity and convenience, and that the charges of its deleerious influence had little weight.

The Board of Councilmen met last evening an disposed of considerable routine business. On me tion, the Special Committee upon the Celebration of Washington's Birthday was increased. Mr. Ross offered a resolution in favor of making the HERALD, Times and Tribune the only organs in which the Corporation proceedings shall be pub lished, which was referred to the Committee or Printing and Advertising. The chairman of the Finance Committee asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the Comptroller's estimates for the taxes of the present year, which was granted, and the subject was made the special order for Thursday next. The Comptroller trans mitted a detailed statement of the moneys received from the Corporation Attorney during the month meet the balance of expenses over collections in the office of the Corporation Attorney for the year 1861. The Comptroller reported that the balance in the city treasury up to February 8 was \$3,125,059 25. The Corporation Counsel, in \$3,125,959 25. The reply to a resolution inquiring as whether it was necessary to authority of the Legislature to impose taxes for the support of the city and county governments, says that taxes cannot be imposed upon the people of this city or county for any purpose whatever without the authority of the Legislature The Comptroller reported that during the last month the sum of \$74,424 was distributed in aid of the families of our volunteer soldiers. The Board concurred with the Aldermen in resolving to invite some leading orator to deliver an oratio on Washington's birthday. The concurred in the adoption of the patriotic resolutions which will be found in the proceedings of the other Board, and also to make arrangements for the reception o Col. Corogram and other distinguished prisoners. A number of decisions were rendered yesterday

in the Supreme Court, General Term. the first degree about ten months since, and teaced by Judge Leonard to imprisonment for life, the General Term of the Supreme Court rendered a decision yesterday reversing the conviction and ordering a new trial. The principal witness agains Katz was his nephew, who testified that he fired the premises at the instigation of his uncle, who was not present when the offence was committed. The Court held that there was an error in trying the prisoner as principal when the facts showed that he was only accessory before the fact.

Yesterday afternoon the United States Marshal eceived a despatch from Washington stating that the motion pending before the Supreme Court of the United States in relation to Captain Gordon had been denied; so that it is highly probable the execution will take place Friday of this week.

According to the City Inspector's report, there vere 403 deaths in the city during the past weekdecrease of 19 as compared with the mortality of the week previous, and 6 less than occurred during the corresponding week last year. The recapitulation table gives 2 deaths of alcoholism, of diseases of the bones, joints, &c.; 87 of the brain and nerves, 2 of the generative organs, 12 of the heart and blood vessels, 138 of the lungs, throat, Se.; 7 of old age, 51 of diseases of the skin and eruptive fevers, 2 premature births, 49 of diseases of the stomach, bowels and other digestive organ 28 of general fevers, 8 of diseases of the urinary organs, 2 unknown, and 10 from violent There were 280 natives of the United States, 11 of England, 75 of Ireland, 28 of Germany, 3 of Scotland, and the balance of various foreign

countries.

Professor Agassiz, the well known savan, comnenced a series of lectures on "Natural History," at Irving Hall, last evening, before a very large audience, notwithstanding the inclement weather His lecture was highly interesting, and was listened to with the greatest pleasure by his hearers. The Professor will resume the subject on the evening of February 24, March 7, 14, 21 and 28 at the same

Skating was resumed yesterday morning; but he storm of sleet which set in after one o'clock P. M. caused a stoppage of the amusement before the usual time. The ice will have been cleane during the night, and skating renewed to-day if the weather prove favorable.

THE UNFORTUNATE DRAWBACKS FROM OUR RECENT VICTORIES .- While the people of New York, and of all the loyal States, are rejoicing over the signal triumphs of the national arms, from Roanoke Island to the banks of the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, there are two circumstances that make us weep with tears or anguish and regret, and these are the escape of Wise and of the thiof Floyd. At the battle of Roanoke Island Wise saw danger ahead, and contrived to escape to Nag's Head, leaving his poor son to fight for him. "he young man fought bravely, and fell, bu. "he basely saved himself by flight. His escape, however. is only temporary. We will catch him yet, and bring him to Fort Lawyette, where he might be exhibited at six cents. As for Floyd, we do most sincerely lament his escape; for he ought to have been sent to Washington, and there brought before the Criminal Court, put in the dock, and tred like any other grand arceny thief, and sout to the penitentiary.

The Downfall of the Rebellion-The Policy of the Administration and of the Southern People.

The capture of Fort Donelson, with the bulk of its rebel garrison of fifteen thousand men, is indeed a great and decisive victory. Standing alone it would be so; but, identified as it is with a succession of Union triumphs in the West and in the East, its importance is immensely extended. With the news of the brilliant little affair near Somerset, in Southern Kentucky, on the 19th of January, in which the rebel General Zollicoffer was slain, we announced that battle as the first manifestation of General McClellan's infallible combinations and resources for a crushing campaign. Our subsequent victories in Tennessee, North Carolina and Missouri, including the triumphal exploration of the Tennessee river into the State of Alabama, and culminating in this grand affair on the Cumberland, all confirm the accuracy of our estimate in designating that little battle near Somerset as the "beginning of the end."

For a month or more after our disastrous battle of Manassas the people of the loyal States were troubled concerning the safety of Washington, and apprehensive of an attack upon it by the army of Johnston and Beauregard. The efforts of the government, then, were necessarily directed. first to the security of our national capital, and secondly to the plan and the men and the means of a grand comprehensive campaign against the strongholds of the rebellion. While thus employed on our side, the hopes of the rebels were strengthened, not only by our apparent insctivity, but by their accidental or incidental victaries of Springfield, Belmont and Lexington Missouri, and by the bloody tragedy to cur Proops of Ball's Bleff, on the Upper Potomac. It is true that against these reverses we had secured a full equivalent in our nevel victories of Hatteras Inlet and Port Royal; but, considering the vast means employed in these expeditions, the rebels still consoled themselves that, not having captured any important seaboard city, or cut off any, important Southern-railroad, we had accomplished little or nothing.

We had done nothing to take away the Northern humiliation or the Southern prestige of Bull run; and neantime the rebel leaders had some reason to expect, upon short notice, the powerful assistance of England. Thus they have been encouraged to prepare for resisting a well equipped Union army of six hundred and fifty thousand men, and a naval force of war ships and gunli oats which alone would be equal in this war to a resisting army of two or even three hundred thousand Southern men, with their inferior artillery. But, consulting these facts, it regulard no prophet to foretell the consequence , with this great Union army. and its co-operating naval forces placed in position around the whole defensive line of the rebellion, from Missouri to Virginia, and from Fortress Monrise down along the seaboard to the outlets of New Orleans. The revolted States were thus reduced to the condition of a beleaguered city, and a break in its defensive line at an point would open the way to the citadel its At.

This def ensive line was broken at S and in those later and still enlarging Unionsuccesses at Fort Henry, Roanoke Island and Fort Dorrelson we have only a fuller developement of General McClellan's encircling combinations. The rebel leaders have relied upontheir internal network of railreads; but they now discover that, with our absolute command of the water, exterior and inland, we can cutthem off even from their railway communications. Hence their late great railway protecting. carnp at Bowling Green was abandoned when they saw that the possession of Fort Donelson, in opening the Cumberland river, would give to as the most convenient military way to Nashville. With the evacuation of Bowling Green, however, and the loss of their principal defences on the Cumberland, they have placed both the railroads and the river leading to Nashville in our possession.

It is needless at present to conjecture the proressive developement of General McClellan's programme. It is satisfactorily developing itself. It has confounded his abolition revilers, created a wholesome panic among the rebel leaders and armies, and will carry joy, hope and courage to the majority of our Southern people, who have thus far been only the passive and helpless victims of Davis and his ruling confederates. Let the honest Union people of the South now rise up and vindicate their loyalty in a bold and general movement for the Union, and without further bloodshed this rebellion will be extinguished. Otherwise we know not what terrible extremities of war may be visited upon the people of the cotton States by the desperation of their secession leaders; but we do know that if Howell Cobb and Toombs are still to be followed in Georgia the women and children therein will be required to burn their own houses over their heads, and their own substance, as the last rescat for a Southern confederacy.

The President of the United States, convinced that the rebellion "has culminated and is declining." has issued a proclamation of amnesty and liberation to certain State prisoners. Let him now, in the same spirit of wisdom and mag nanimity, lasne another proclamation to the rebel a mies and the people of the rebellions South, comprehending a liberal amnesty and of protection of the constitution of the Union to the revolted States, upon their return to their proper allegiance within a given time, and we dare say that before the expiration of twenty days the armed forces of this rebellion will b.

will be in the ascendancy from Richmond to New Orleans. We respectfully submit to the President that the time has arrived for a proclamation of the character indicated; for we have no doubt that it would be followed by the mosa glorious results in a popular Southern Union

Startling Developements in Prospect mittee.

Beau Hickman's Kitchen Committee is making progress. It has finished its examination of the contemptuous Chevalier Wikoff, and is now engaged with the floral Watts. Watts used to be the gardener of the White House. and Beau Hickman expects to obtain a great deal of information from him. We hope he may. What Watts don't know about flowers and hitchen gardening is not worth knowing, and the longer the Paul Prvs of the committee pump Watts the better they will be able to rival inagus or keep a hothouse on their own hooks.

Naturally enough, the first questions Beau Hickman proposed to Watts were about the flowers used at the White House ball. It is amusing to observe how interested and curious these long baired, uninvited abolitionists are about that ball, and how auxiously they endeavor to glean all the particulars in regard to it. The committee smelled treason, stratagems or spoils in every flower which adorned the White House tables upon the night of the ball; and if this had been the old War of the Roses revived Beau Hickman could not have been more minute in his inquiries about the White House garden. We are told in Scripture that great things sometimes come of a grain of mustard seed; and the Kitchen Committee evidently applies this principle to flower and vegetable seeds as well. The relation between turnips and treason, radishes and rebellion, salad and State secrets is as clear as amber to the inquiring mind of the investigating Hickman. To him camelias suggest contracts; dahlias, dangerous delays to advance; japonicas, jealousies of McClellan; and lilacs. Mrs. Lincoln's influence with the President. Particular attention was directed to cabbages, their culture and use; for to the wise heads of the Kitchen Committee the subject of cabbages includes Cameron, Cabinet confidences, closets, coteries and circumstances generally. In fact, the whole examination of Watts seemed to be conducted upon the plan of that children's alphahet which begins "A stands for archer, who carries a bow," and ends "Z stands for Zany" or a member of Hickman's committee, except that a flower or a vegetable was substituted for a letter.

By this shrewd device Beau Hickman see eeded in eliciting many important facts, which may be included in the agricultural volumes of the Patent Office reports at some future (and we hope distant) day. He learned, also, that upon one memorable day, Watts, having occasion to read up a little upon the abstruse subject of dandeliens, went to the Presidential library for that purpose, and saw lying upon a table the forthcoming Message of the President. The Meseage being written out in a good, round hand, and Watts having enjoyed the blessings of a public school education, the gardener was enabled to read the document in question; and he forthwith culled the sweet flowers of the President's rhetoric, formed them into a bouquet and treasured them in the flewerstand of memory. This was a great discovery, to be sure. The proclivities of servants-to-pry into their masters' affairs is a fact so new, so unheard of and so startling that Beau Hickman expects to be hailed as a sort of kitchen Columbus, and will patent his discovery as seen as possible. Excited with this triumph, he intends to summon all the gardeners of the country as witnesses before his prying committee. Awful Gardiner, whom Beau Hickman has mistaken for a horticulturist, but who is really a reformed pugilist, is to be cross-examined immediately. Some one has been kind enough to inform Hickman that Claude Melnotte was a gardener, and afterwards became an officer. The coincidence between Molnotte and Watts-who was enpointed to the army some time ago-struck Hickman as remarkable, and he decided that the matter ought to be investigated. Edwin Forrest will therefore proceed at once to Washington and give the committee the worst possible representation of Claude.

Nor is this matter to end hero. All the servants of the White House are to be brought before the Kitchen Committee. President Lincoln was overheard repeating certain portions of his Message to the partner of his bosom while dressing, and so all the pratty chambermaids of the White House are to be examined. The bill of fare for the White House dinner was written, or a day, upon the back of an unfinished draft of the Message, and therefore the White House cook and the other members of the gennine Kitchen Cabi-nat are to be questioned by Hickman. The President tore up an unsatisfictory portion of the Message and threw the fragments into the spittoon, and therefore the drudges and under servants of the White House are to be put upon the witness strud, and the spitteon will be offered in evidence and investigated by Beau Hickman. After completing his Message, the President kicked off his slippers and put on his boots, and therefore, the beathlack of the White House is to release before the committee what transpired in regard to the Message upon that secasion, and whether the President confided to him its contents. The President rode out before the Message was delivered, and therefore the White House coashman is to anpear and tell all he knows. The Chevalier Willis, of the Home Journal, saw "a gleam of white linen," while up a tree in the White House grounds, and he is to be subposnaed also: for Beau Hickman thinks the apparent "white linen" may have been really a manuscript copy of the Message. As all of these witnesses are to be made to tell everything that kas occurred in the White House, whether it concerns the Message or not Bean Hickman anticipates some astounding developements. There never was such a chance of becoming acquainted with the kitchen, the laundry, the chambers, the closets, the coal hole, the slop-sewers, the cellars and every other private department of the White House, before, and Bean Hickman knows it. He will be fully equal to the occasion, and will itus prison any witness who is sensible and well. bred en agh to refuse to answer his importinent questions. The startling developeraent are therefore cectain.

No wonder European journals ridtonle our government. Such fellows as Hickman and his

broken up, and the Union men of the South | tribe of bigoted, spiteful abolitionists give them the opportunity. To indulge a petty maller against a lady whose position and sex alike should shield her from insult, Hickman's committee wastes the public money, disgraces the nation and holds up the government to the bitter but deserved satire and contempt of the civilized world. Congress authorizes and encourages this indecerat, malicious and illtimed investigation, during this crisis of a struggie for national existence. It is hard to say of which the public is move ashamed, the man who conducts this investig ation or the legislative body which endorses it.

> A DAY OF PUBLIC CELEBRA, UON OF THE RE CENT VICTORIES .- In view of the recent successes of the national arms, it is ditting that we should set apart a day for their celebration in this city; and as the anniversary of the birth of Washington occurs on the 22d of the present month, we suggest that that is the proper one to be selected. Philadelphia has cheady decided upon it, and no doubt other eities will do likewice. Such a demonstration on our part will be in accordance with the fast days which we observed last year, and swill give us all am opportunity of testifying our by over the rapid progress now making towards the restoration of this Union and the extinction of the robellion. The delight which the whole North has felt over the victory of A'oanoke and the capture of Fort Donelson can only be equalled by the final satisfaction, which we shall soon experience, of having completely reasserted the federal authority n every portion of the revolted States We have indeed real cause for congratulation; for virtually the game of rebellion is already decided, and the flag of the Union floats proudly in all but three of the rebellious States. The fate of the Southern confederacy is sealed; treason is in its last throes, and the restoration of the integrity of the Union is inevitable, and only a matter of time-a few days or weeks, sooner or later. The loval are triumphant, the traitors are defeated and driven back in confu sion, and the great republic has survived the trying ordeal introded for its destruction. Have we not, then, occasion for rejoicing, and thanks giving? Let us unite in a general and hearte expression of national feeling, and while com memorating the birthday of the illustrious Father of the republic, look forward bepefully to the speedy re-establishment of the Union whose foundation he left to us as the glorious legacy of his labors. THE ESCAPE OF FLOYD .- Our troops have

captured Fort Donelson, with its garrison: but the immortal Floyd has slipped through their fingers. He was too oldes thief to be caught napping, and so he stole of under cover of the night with five thousand men. He beats Price all hollow as a runner. In the mountains of Western Virginia, last summer, Floyd was the thief who "bothered our boys intirely" be stealing off in the dark. His rebel associates whom he left in the lurch at Fort Donelson denounce him as "a blackhearted traitor and coward;" but they don't understand his case, ad are very ungrateful. His greatest trouble is that, as the chief of the Cabinet traitors and thieves of Mr. Buchanan's administration, as the great stealer of government arms and areanals, he imagines there is a price set upon his head, and that his fate as a prisoner of war would be a rope, without judge or jury. He daes not like the fles of standing up in battle to be shot at; but he fears the hangman's ropeabove all other dangers. Other rebels may expect to be treated seconding to the laws war; but Floyd, if saught, expects to be punished as a thief and a robber: and so-Floyd anot the hero to surrender as appinoner of was while there is a chance of stealing off or run ning away. Finally, for the present, consis ing his proficiency and skill, and his cool de-liberation in stealing and running, the chances are that Floyd will still contrive to steal or run off, even if followed up to the Mexican fromier.

EUROPEAN PURPOSUS IN MEXICO.—The journals

of England and Prance have been argusing themselves for some time past with the idea of a king for Mexico. The people of Bavaria are in a terrible state of excitement over the expectation that the Apehduke Maximilian is to be the monarch in question. In fact, we are told that a large bacrease to the French forces in Mexico would shortly sail, with a visu to this kingly project. Now we regard all these movemonis of Burowan Powers as simply farcical-No kingdom or empire can ever be astablished in Mexico, though France may send fifty thou-Spain and England go ahead in that line. With such vigorous blows as we are giving to the pebellion, it will be extirely crushed out to June, and our immerse naval and militar forces will be at liberty to staile anywhere. These European Powers are only furnishing me with reascas for interfering in Mexico; an bif we once begin we will not stop till we drive the Spaniards out of Cuba and Porto Rico. They are making their own graves, and will be forced to occupy them. We now have 700,900 men in the field, and a rapidly increasing wyy of nearly four hundred vessels some of them iron-chal and transports without number. From the despendency everywhere exhibited by the rebels, it is clear that they must ve y soon cave in; and the same soldiers who are now fighting under the direction of Jeff. Davis would sk no better employment than to rally under the old flag for the final expulsion of European kingeraft from this continent. Let France. spain and lingland make their own Procrustean sed. If they do not play their game vary sharply they may be called upon to enjoy it before the end of the year.

PURILE OPINION IN THE SOUTH,-The people of the Southern States are rapidly being con vinced of the faily of any prolonged resistance to the federal government. The facts contained in our Baltimene correspondence yestenday clearly show this. They see that the rebellion is on its last legs, and the great Union victories a Somersot, Roanoke Island and Forts Henry and Donelson will conarm their fears. Already have the rebels been compelled, by the superior strategy of our generals, to abandon their strongly fortified position at Bowling Green. while the army of the Union is closing in upon them everywhere. Why, then, do not Southern men show a little more pluck by rebelling against the rebellion? Now is their time to act. if they would aid in restoring peace and pros. perity to their homes, by declaring for the Union of their fathers, and trampling treason under foot.

SERENADR.—Mrs. General C. F. Smith and family were screened but night by the efficers of the Fighin and Iwofth infantry garrisoning Forts Hamilton, Latayette and Richmond. The band of the Twelfth infantry discousted several patriotic airs on the occasion of General emith's success at Fort Donelson.